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Residence of William F. Robbins --------- " 37

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21 Illustrations

- 5775 -

THE EPHRAIM ROBBINS HOUSE
A ROBBINS HOMESTEAD
Curve Street

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DEDICATED MAY 18, 1888
CARLISLE, MASS.

Historical Sketch

Poem: "New Englander" by Greene

Two Robbins Genealogical Lines

Robbins by Mrs. E.R. Berry

Poem: "The Spinning Wheel" by Benton

Robbins Houses

Robbins Land

Rev. Francis Mansfield

Extracts from Manuscript by Rev. Francis Mansfield, M.D.

Deed: Dunbar to Robbins

List of Robbins Photographs and Portraits

The Carlisle Pines

Barrett Families

The Ephraim Robbins house,

probably built 1800, or thereabout- (2 rooms 1650)

photographed in 1900.

Curve Street.

Ephraim Robbins Jr.

February 19th 1820

2

The Ephraim Robbins house,

Curve Street.

Built in 1800

photographed in 1930.
by Mrs B. P. Wilkins.

3

The Robbins Homestead.

"The meadows upon the great brook early attracted settlements in the southern part of the town (Chelmsford) in what is now Carlisle. In that neighborhood lived John Barrett, George Robbins, Thomas Corey, and others. In 1671 the town laid out a highway for the inhabitants of Great Brook and others to travel to mill and to meeting-house."

George Robbins was probably the first owner of the Robbins farm in north Carlisle, originally a part of Chelmsford. The cellar of the first house, built before 1650, and also one of the second house, was visible for many years, but one was later filled in by a tenant. The first was probably the one nearest the brook, altho' I think it is not definitely known. The house now standing on this farm is the third structure, built about 1800, according to Mr. Arthur G. Robbins, and was then in Chelmsford. Miss Malvina Robbins, who died in 1915, one of its last family occupants said it was over two hundred years old, but it is not known upon what she based her statement. We do know it has stood there a full century and more for Miss Malvina was born there in 1824. The building has many evidences of the early carpentry and is worthy of a close study.

The original Robbins grant of eight hundred acres has since been several times divided. It extended from the North school house on the Lowell road, to or past the Acton line somewhere near the Frank Wilkins property, and took in many of the farms now in the West part of Carlisle.

On Great Brook was also located the Robbins saw and grist mill, and the rough masonry which supported the water wheel over the brook, can still be found. The mill stones, now almost covered with moss, leaf mould and brush, are lying near by, one having a tree growing through the center opening, not only completely filling it, but overgrown upon the stone itself, but not yet having split it. The cart tracks through field and woods still tell their story of many years of heavy teaming.

George Robbins was the first to go on this location. While it has never been definitely determined, it is quite generally believed by those who have made a careful study of the question, that Robert and George Robbins were sons of Nicholas and nephews of Richard Robbins of Cambridge. The Robbinses

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http://www.archive.org/details/oldhousesfamilie21wilk

were probably Royalist soldiers under General Monk in the Army of Charles II and came to this country to escape capture. They were of good family of Norman descent.

George, evidently older than Robert, judging from their families, appeared in Chelmsford before Robert did in Concord, and the Carlisle branch descended, without any doubt, from George, evidenced in part, by the fact that some of his lands remain in the ownership of his descendants today, making this a true Robbins homestead. Never has this home place been out of the Robbins name since it was granted to George Robbins of Chelmsford.

The first mention of George in Chelmsford was when his daughter Mary was born, Sept 17–1667. His first marriage is not recorded here. He married three times, first to Mary whose surname is unknown; second to Alice whose family name is equally obscure, and then to Mary Barrett, daughter of Thomas and Frances (Woolderson) Barrett. Eleven children were born to them, three by the first wife Mary, seven by Alice and one by Mary Barrett. George, the father, died in 1689 leaving a will, a copy of which can be found in Bull's History of Carlisle. p. 142.

You will note on pages 142 and 333 of this history just mentioned, the statement is made that George Robbins was son of Robert, which is an error. They were probably brothers but it has not yet been proved.

In the will of George Robbins, he gave to his wife Mary "twenty pounds in Corn and Cattle", to sons Samuel, Eleizer, Jonathan and Benjamin ten pounds each, and to little Thomas, five pounds. Sarah was to have £10 and his feather bed with its furniture, and to Mary he gave £10, half in household goods and half in corn and cattle. Philip was to have half of a certain meadow and twelve acres of upland, and all the rest of the land was to be equally divided between sons John and George, both minors when their father died, although they were also appointed executors of their father's estate. Through probate record it is found that both John and George, because of their minority, chose guardians; George chose John Perram and John chose Ephriam Hildreth.

Joseph, a twin, died young, and Philip apparently died unmarried. The others married and went away from home, as also did George who married Elizabeth Wood and went to live in Stow, leaving John on the home place.

There is a record in Chelmsford of a sale of powder to George Robbins on Sept 1 - 1674, and in 1675 George Robbins and another man were suspected of killing an Indian - They were indicted Nov 19-1675 but not found guilty - This must have referred to George[1] Robbins, as George[2], Jr. was then an infant.

John[2] Robbins married Dorothy Hildreth in 1699, a niece of his guardian, and daughter of James and Margaret (Ward) Hildreth, and brought his bride to the Robbins farm. To them were born eight children, three sons, Joseph[3], John[3] and Jonas[3], and five daughters, Elizabeth, Sarah, Eleanor, Lucy and Mary. All grew up except Joseph and Sarah, and married into local families. John married Susanna Harwood and, taking a part of the ancestral farm (which seems to be the first division) located on what is known as the Frank Wilkins property. This left his brother Jonas[3] on the home place with his wife Mary Heald, daughter of John and Mary (Hale) Heald, and their growing family of eleven children.

Ensign Jonas[3] Robbins is on the Revolutionary Roll of Chelmsford and his record can be found there - He made his will Feb. 20-1775 and five days later he died at the age of 61 years. In his will he speaks of sons Jonas[4] and John[4] who had already taken a part of their inheritance, presumably when they had married and left the parental home. The daughters Sarah, Mary, Elenor, Azuba, Lydia, Lucy and Rebecca were given money; Joseph[4] for some reason, was not mentioned. He died a few years later - His wife Mary was to have half of his household goods, the other half to be divided among the daughters after her decease. She was also to have half of "the improvement of one half of the lands and quick stock during her life, one half of my dwelling house, that is the west end, one third of the barn, the Bible, Psalm book and one half of the rest of my books." Son Ephraim[4] was to have all the land not yet disposed of by deed as above, when he became of age; the husbandry tools, two thirds to Ephraim, the rest to his mother to revert to him at her decease and he was also to have his mother's thirds after her death.

Jonas' widow Mary survived her husband many years and always lived in the Robbins house, having her separate rooms where she kept house after Ephraim married. Jonas[3] was buried in Chelmsford, but his wife Mary, with all the generations following, is buried in Carlisle.

Four years after his father's death, Ephraim[4] became of age

and when twenty-four, married Sybil Spaulding.

The Robbins families were staunch supporters of the Church. Jonas[3] had died before the Carlisle church was organized, but his widow, Mary (Heald) Robbins, his son John[4] and wife Sarah (Fletcher) Robbins, were among its charter members in 1781. John[4] was chosen Deacon on Nov. 29-1781 of that same year, and his brother Ephraim[4] was made Deacon soon after May 9-1784. When the pews were sold by auction in 1781, the town records say the highest price paid was $66.50 for pew No. 18 by Deacon Ephraim Robbins, and the lowest price was $15 for pew No. 11, which was struck off to Mr. John Robbins.

Again in 1810, when the Carlisle Church was being rebuilt after having been struck by lightning, "Ephraim Robbins and Reuben Duren of Carlisle, yeoman, were sold pew No. 22 on the lower floor of the meeting house, for the sum of $51.50." The deed was signed Dec. 16-1811 by Asa Parlin, Nathan Green, Jr. and Thomas Heald, in the presence of Z. Wilkins and Nathaniel Parker.

It was this same Deacon Ephraim Robbins who wrote the weighty arguments embodied in a printed pamphlet entitled "A Friendly Letter to the Rev. Mr. Cummings, containing several queries upon certain observations in his Sermon on Natural Religion" which may be found in the collection of the Carlisle Historical Society. This was printed for the author in 1796.

Deacon Ephraim[4] Robbins was in 1790 a Representative to the General Court when Carlisle was a district of Acton.

In 1781 he was on a Committee of Seven to hire men of the District of Carlisle to serve in the Continental Army. And in 1800 he was one of a Committee of three to provide stipulated articles for the Carlisle soldiers who were to take part in a General Muster at Concord, which included beef, bread, cheese, powder, cider and West Indian rum.

The sons of Jonas[3] Robbins figured prominently in the development of their section of the town. Jonas[4] Robbins, being willed certain lands, built upon what we now call the Morse place, at present owned by Mr. Harry Stearns. John[4], who married Sarah Fletcher, had his farm on the north-western section of the grant, nearly opposite the present cranberry bog, and Deacon Ephraim[4] remained on the home lot.

Five children were born to Deacon Ephraim[4] and his wife Sybil Spaulding, only two of whom grew to maturity and married.

The daughter Sybil[5] married Eliakim Hutchins of Westford; and Ephraim, Jr.[5] married Ann Lovejoy of Carlisle in 1821 and made his home in his father's house.

Meanwhile, Carlisle had become a town in 1805 and the family took a vital interest in civic matters. Ephraim, Jr. was town clerk in the years 1841 and 1842, and selectman those same two years. He wrote a very legible hand as may be seen by his signature in 1820 which is shown with the picture of the old house.

Mr. Arthur G. Robbins thinks this third and present house was built about 1800, some time before Ephraim's marriage to Ann Lovejoy. Six children came to them here we know; one John Nelson Robbins died young. The oldest, Ephraim Oscar[6], called Oscar, born in 1822, remained here, unmarried, all his life, dying in 1903 at the age of 81 years. His sister Malvina Ann[6], born in 1824 also lived in this house, unmarried, during her long life of 91 years. She told Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry the house was two hundred years old, then, as did also her brother Oscar, but the basis for this assertion is unknown.

Miss Malvina was for many years a teacher in the public schools of Carlisle and a great lover of music. When a young woman she was engaged to be married to Zebulun Spaulding, a neighbor. He started to build a house for their future home, but before it was finished he had pneumonia and died. Seiar Simons, who married Zebulon's sister Clarissa, finished the house and occupied it for a time. It is the one more recently owned by Mrs Arthur Hall on Lowell St. near the brook. Miss Robbins carried flowers in their season to Zebulon's grave every week for a great many years.

Sybil Spaulding[6] Robbins, sister to Malvina, died at the age of 56, unmarried.

Henry Clay[6] Robbins, brother, married Martha E. Prescott, daughter of Humphrey Prescott, entered the medical profession, was an Army surgeon, and finally located in Creston, Illinois.

George Heald[6] Robbins, another brother, born 1830, had his schooling in Carlisle and Lowell, and in 1857 and 8, engaged in surveying in Princeton, Illinois. In 1861 he married Mary Heald Melvin of Concord, and in 1868 purchased a farm in the south part of Carlisle, where his daughter, Miss Carrie Melvin[7] Robbins now resides.

Mr Arthur Graham[7] Robbins, son of George H.[6] and Mary H. Robbins, born in Carlisle, graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1886 and joined the faculty immediately. Through successive promotions he became professor of topographical

engineering in 1906. After forty years of service to the Institute, he retired in 1932 and joined the ranks of professors emeritus. He has been active in the Appalachian Mountain Club. His sister, Miss Carrie Robbins is a local authority on ferns and birds.

The Carlisle pines were on the original Robbins grant, and were sold by Oscar Robbins to the Appalachian Mountain Club, but are now owned by the State of Massachusetts. They were at one time considered the finest stand of virgin white pines in the East. The ravages of time and the elements have greatly depleted their number, and changed them so that their greatest glory seems past, yet some very fine specimens still remain.

The various farms, taken from this original Robbins estate of eight hundred acres, are described elsewhere in these pages, under the stories of the Frank Wilkins house, the Robbins-Chamberlain place (which may have been partly from the Peter Lumbar deed), the Hutchin-Swanson property, the Elmer Dow farm, the Herbert Prescott house, the Robbins-Mansfield notes, and the Carlisle Pines Reservation. Much of the information came from Mrs. Elizabeth Robbins Berry whose interest and knowledge of family history has made it possible to provide numerous facts.

The oldest picture of the Ephraim Robbins house, taken by her about 1900, shows that the exterior has not greatly changed through the last forty years. Miss Malvina and her brother Oscar Robbins were living there at the time, but it was a hot afternoon in early fall and Miss Malvina had closed the blinds to keep the house cool while she went out calling.

The house is replete with evidences of by-gone days. The foundations are of hewn stone carefully quarried on the Mary Marshall farm, a part of the home ground, and hauled and laid by Robbins men. The garden fence posts and tall posts back of the house, with an unique arrangement of horizontal slabs used as supports for grape vines, were also from the native stone.

The building, first planned for one family, has undergone changes during the years to adapt it to two families, but it is essentially the usual type of one family farm houses. It faces the south, has a central doorway, a large room on each side of the front entry which flanks the big chimney. The front door with side lighting extending down the sides, opens into what was

once a flower garden enclosed by a picket fence.

Within the house, the gunstock supporting beams at the corners, used instead of bracketing, large and sturdy, can be seen in the attic, where the floor boards are amazingly wide. They show the lines of the up-and-down saw used in the mill before the days of circular saws which make smoother surfaces. This attic, light and cheery, was used as a weave room and for spinning. They raised their own sheep and they were sheared at the mill, as described by Rev. Mr. Mansfield in his reminiscences of the boyhood days on the Jonas Robbins place, and found elsewhere in this book. The women spun the yarn and wove it into the cloth which made the clothes they wore.

The sitting room, in this case the west front room, has a large fire-place which has emenated cheer for a century and a half. The fire-place walls are all paneled and on the various doors can be found four different kinds of wrought iron hinges:— the butterfly, H- and HL, and strap hinges with heart shaped ends. It is quite unusual to find so many kinds in one room.

The parlor was the east front room, large and airy, with a fireplace and wide board floor. It is recalled that once the floor was covered with woven rag carpeting, and later by a large braided rug which left only small corners bare, doubtless the work of the patient hands of the Robbins women.

The kitchen on the north side with an entrance through an open shed at the west, had a big brick oven and built-in boiler or tank, used to heat water for washing, hog killing and kindred house and farm purposes.

All the windows in the house have small panes, most of them having fifteen, a few having only nine. There is a long back roof, and at the East end of the building is an outside door, probably added for the convenience of the occupants when two families were there. A shed with two open arches are at the west end of the building across the old road from the barn. A pair of ox yokes and some unfinished ones are still in the barn. Oxen were used extensively for heavy hauling from the mill and on the farm.

The buildings are situated a short distance from and with their backs to Curve St, from which it is reached by the only portion of an old road which is now used, but which once passed the house, crossed two brooks, continued to the south, wound through woods, meadow and upland, in places

bordered by the finest hemlocks I have seen in Carlisle, and after passing the old Jonas Robbins place, now owned by Mr. Harry Stearns, continued to a point on Lowell Street near the property of Mrs. George Heald. A branch from this old road once came through the pasture back of the home of Mrs. C. P. Wilkins where it joined what is now called Rockland Rd. These roads have been discontinued many years, but a county map dated 1856 shows the Robbins road, first spoken of, as being then in use.

In these last years, the old house has sat quietly in the sun, unoccupied part of the time, leased to strangers at intervals, but it has never passed out of the possession of the Robbins Family, making it a true homestead. During nearly three centuries, six generations of Robbinses have lived here, and it is today owned by Mr. Arthur G. Robbins of Cornchester, Mass., a descendant in the seventh generation in the direct line from the original grantee, George Robbins of Chelmsford.

References:

Vital records of Chelmsford,
" " " Carlisle
" " " Westford.
Lewis' History of Middlesex County.
Letters of J. Gilbert Robbins
Notes of Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry
Robbins Genealogical Society, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Bell's History of Carlisle
Shattuck's Concord, Carlisle & Acton.
Writings of Rev. Francis Mansfield.
Water's History of Chelmsford.

This poem by Rina Maude Greene, seems especially applicable to the Ephraim Robbins house - It is called "New Englander" -

Deep have we dug into this soil and planted
All that is best of us, three hundred years;
Wrestled with rock and forest, blood and tears;
Builded, in other time, our houses, haunted
With all the fragrance of an antique charm.

Buried our dead in wistful roadside acres,
Sent out our stalwart living to be makers
Of that great world that lies beyond the farm -
Now wait we here, not wholly reminiscent,
Basking in sun, or stirred by rain and wind,
Bending, not beaten by the winter storm king,
Learning, although we are not yet omniscient,
To be unafraid and keep a tranquil mind,
Knowing the brood that rests beneath our wing.

The two Robbins lines in Carlisle -

I George[1] Robbins of Chelmsford -
II John[2] Robbins & Dorothy Heldreth
III Eunsign Jonas[3] Robbins & Mary Heald
IV Deacon Ephraim[4] Robbins & Sybil Spaulding
V Ephraim Robbins & Ann Lovejoy
VI George H. Robbins & Mary H. Melvin
VII Arthur G. Robbins and sister, Miss Carrie Robbins

IV Dea. John Robbins[4] & Sarah Fletcher
V John Robbins & Jane Lauckton
VI John Dana Robbins & Caroline Lakin
VII Daniel W. Robbins & Lizzie Wilson
VIII Fred E. Robbins & Ruth Martin

Robbins.

George Robbins of Chelmsford, Mass. was the pioneer American of the family of which the Carlisle Robbinses are members. He is said to have been one of the first settlers of the town of Chelmsford, which was about 1653. At about the same time Robert Robbins appeared in Concord. Historians have differed as to whether these two men were father and son or brothers. Mr J. Gilbert Robbins (a descendant of Robert) who worked for twelve years on the genealogy of the Robbins family, was convinced that they were brothers, and furthermore that they had come from Scotland, and were soldiers in the army of Charles II, who was defeated by Cromwell on Sept. 3 – 1651. Cromwell made it desirable that many of the Royalist soldiers who had served under King Charles, should leave the country at that time. Most of the Royalists went to Virginia, but a few came to Massachusetts.

George Robbins m. Mary (family name unknown*), probably about 1666. Mary died in 1672 aged 24. The date of John[2] is not recorded but may have been 1672 the year of Mary's death. He is mentioned in his father's will and he (John[2]) married Dorothy Hildreth about 1699 (record torn). Dorothy was the daughter of James[2] and Margaret (Ward) Hildreth and the granddaughter of Richard Hildreth, the pioneer. George' m. later Alice ——; she died in 1686, and he is said to have m. third, Mary Barrett, who outlived him.

John[2] Robbins' son Jonas[3] married Mary Heald,[5] daughter of John[4] Heald and Mary (Hale) Heald; their son John[4], known as Deacon John Robbins, married Sarah Fletcher, daughter of Josiah Fletcher and Mary (Chamberlain);

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* Family name was Maxwell, according to tradition. It has not been proven.

John[4] was a minute man at the Concord Fight, and John Fletcher a soldier at Bunker Hill. John[5], son of John[4] and Mary, married Jane Templeton, whose father was said to have been a Revolutionary soldier. Their oldest son, John[6], married Caroline Lakin and their youngest son, Daniel Webster[7] married Lizzie L. Wilson; their youngest child, William F.[8] is today a resident of Carlisle.

Daniel Webster Robbins[7], was a soldier in the Civil War, serving the entire four years. Waldo[8], brother of William F. Robbins[8] enlisted in the Spanish War, but was not called, and William F.[8] was awaiting call in the World War when the Armistice came.

The Robbins family (according to Mr I. G. Robbins, were French who settled first in Normandy (France) then went into England with William the Conqueror. It is said that one was an equerry (master of horse) of William the Conqueror.; that one of the family settled in Scotland and from that branch the Carlisle families came.

The Norman type still shows in the large blond men and some very fair-haired children. The name was originally Robynes, Robyns, Robins, Robbins. In the Chelmsford Vital Statistics you will see it spelled Robbins. Robynes means "of a town." The coat of arms of the Robbins family may be seen on another page with a description and motto. The translation is "Virtue survives the grave."

The Robbins family includes some good sires from the Healds, some of the oldest Concord families, in-

cluding Major Simon Willard, one of the founders. Such names as Blood, Torrey, Hunt, Wheeler, Dean, Chandler, Wright, came into its make up.

There were probably four ancestors in the Revolution and one in the war of 1812 (John G. Rukin) so the family has been represented in all wars but the Mexican. Most of the Robbins men have been farmers.

Written by Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry.

The Spinning Wheel.

By Joel Benton.

In country houses long years ago
The spinning wheel went round and round
And those who heard it will always know
Its solemnly quaint and droning sound.

The soft white wool from the spindle ran
Into a thread so fair and fine,
That it always baffled the boy or man
Who tried to watch its even line.

For the wheel was given a curious twirl
Some magic prompted its humming snore
Yet it did not trouble the country girl
Who learned its art on the kitchen floor.

I see her still step to and fro;
Pulling each roll in the deftest way;
And singing some air to make it go
With strange delight through the toilsome day.

On the burdened spindle the white thread grew
Just as her cunning foresight planned
And it was wondrous to see how true
The swift yarn followed her guiding hand.

'Twas a charming picture in summer days;
But the wheel to rack and ruin has gone,
And the pretty spinner's grand child fair
Is seen "croquetting upon the lawn.

Hushed is that solemn droning sound
Its art is now forgotten lore;
So the spinning wheel no more goes round
On summer days by the kitchen door.

Robbins Houses.

The original Robbins grant of land contained 800 acres extending from the North School-house to the Acton road near the home of Frank Wilkins. The land was divided and subdivided in the course of time. This tract originally belonged to the town of Chelmsford. On April 28-1780 the Second District of Carlisle was formed, being incorporated from parts of Acton, Billerica, Chelmsford and Concord.

George[1] Robbins who came to this country before 1670, was the first owner of the farm later known as the Ephraim Robbins place in the north part of Carlisle, title to which has remained in the Robbins family to the present time (1934). The will of George Robbins may be found in Bull's history of Carlisle, p. 142. Ten children are mentioned in this will.

I

George[1] Robbins, whose birth and death are not recorded, but the inventory of his estate was dated Aug. 23-1689, married Mary (first wife) who died Sept. 1672, aged 24 years 7 months; he married second, Alice — who died Nov. 25-1686. She was from Woburn.

II

John[2] Robbins, b. probably 1672, d. Aug. 1762 aged 89 years, son of George[1] and his first wife Mary. He married Dorothy Hildreth, Nov. 30-1699 who was born in 1674 and died April 19-1757 aged 83.

III

Ensign Jonas[3] Robbins, b. July 3-1714, d. Feb. 25-1775, aged 61 yrs 7 m. 22 days. He m. May 24-1738, Mary Heald, dau. of John and Mary (Hale) Heald. He had a brother John[3] known as John Junior, who lived where Frank Wilkins now lives, cor Westford and Acton Sts. Carlisle.

IV

Deacon John[4] Robbins son of Jonas[3] and Mary (Heald) Robbins, was born Feb. 4-1745, d. March 28-1826; m Oct 1-1771, Sarah Fletcher, b. June 2-1750 and d. July 13-1819 aged 69 yrs. Deacon John married before his father died, and built the house on the Deacon Chamberlin place on Curve St. Ephraim[4], his brother inherited the homestead and lived on it. He m. April 30-1782, Sybel Spaulding. Their children were (1) Esther, b. 1783; (2) Azubah, b. 1786; (3) Azubah, b. 1790; (4) Ephraim, b. 1796, m. Ann Lovejoy (5) Sybbel, b. Mar. 18-1798, m. Eliakim Hutchins of Westford in 1818. Jonas[4] brother of Dea. John[4] and Ephraim[4], b. Jan 28 1741, built the house on the Abram Hutchins place where Paul Swanson is now located (1934). He m. Feb. 28-1764, Sybel Durant. Their children were, (1) Sibbel, b. May 2-1765, d. Aug 26-1778; (2) Jonas, b. Aug. 12-1767, drowned at sea, Jan 16-1791, (3) Molly, b. Mar. 14-1769, (4) Benjamin, b. July 1-1772 (5) Joseph, b.

June 5-1775, d. Aug. 17-1778; (6) Betty, b. July 12-1778, (7) Lilbel, b. April 12-1781, (8) Joseph, b. March 29-1784.

V and VI

John[5] Robbins, son of Deacon John[4] and Sarah (Fletcher) Robbins, b. Nov. 4-1777, married Jane Templeton, April 10-1808, who died Aug. 28-1849 aged 63. John[5] died July 16-1832 aged 55 yrs. Their children were: (1) John Dana[6], b. April 6-1809, d. Oct. 14-1858; m. April 22-1827, Caroline Lakin. He was born on the Dea. Samuel B. Chamberlin place. He was 6 ft. 2 in. tall and weighed 260 lbs. Caroline, his wife, died Aug. 27-1890 aged 82 years, 4 months. Their children were. John, Samuel Heald, Paulina Nickles, Mary Hunt, Charles Harrison, Georgianna Maria and Daniel Webster.

(2) Eliza[6], b. Nov. 29-1812. m. Gardner Stilman Mansfield, int. April 2-1831 and lived where Mr. Harry Stearns is now located.

(3) Mary[6], b. Jan. 28-1814; d. June 27-1879, aged 63 yrs 5 m.; m. Albert Boynton, June 14-1839.

(4) Gardner Fletcher[6], second son of John[3] and Jane (Templeton) Robbins, b. May 27-1818, d. March 11-1866 in Carlisle, aged 48 years, and is buried in Springfield, Mass.

(5) Jonas[6], b. 1820 and died 1821.

(6) William Eustis[6], b. March 15-1823, d. Sept. 13-1915; m. Lucia M. Hunt.

All of the children of John[5] and Jane (Templeton) Robbins were born on the Chamberlin place. While Jane lived there as a widow, the house was burned. Her son Gardner Fletcher (called Fletcher) who had learned the carpenters trade, rebuilt it for her. Not long after her death (1849) it passed into the hands of Dea. Chamberlin and this second house has since burned, so only the cellar and masonry remains to mark the spot, not far from the cranberry bog, on the opposite side of the road.

VI

John Dana[6] Robbins, who m. Caroline Lakin, had settled in a house that stood on the foundation of Carrie Dow's barn on Curve St. Mrs Carrie (Robbins) Dow's father was Samuel Heald[7] Robbins, son of John Dana[6]. He went to California in 1849 and the money he got there, he used in building the house where Mrs. Dow lived, and which has since burned. He took the foundation of the previous house for the foundation of his barn.

John Dana[6] built the little house on Curve St. now owned by Mr. Herbert Prescott and lived there till his death in 1858.

Robbins land.

The following is a copy of an old paper found by Miss Ouellette in the Deven barn, 1933, which says it is a sworn copy of a statement in the Chelmsford Book of Records.

Copy.

Chelmsford October ye 25 1725 Land Laid out to John Robbens in the fourth Division of Commons and on the Right of George Robbens One acre more or Lefs on the South Side of Great Brook Bounded on a white oak Tree on the Southerly Corner which was the sd Robbens former Bounds then going Esterly by a Line of marked Trees to a Black oak Tree at the most Northerly Corner near sd Brook then Running Easterly by the Land of Joseph Barritt Senr to a Black oak Tree and So by the Land of Jonathan Barritt to Billerica Line then going westerly by Billerica Line to a white oak Tree and heap of Stones and then bounded by sd. Robbens own Land to the Bounds first mentioned.

Entered December 3d. 1725
Pr Benjamin Adams, Town Clerk.

Ephraim Hildreth
Ebenezer Wright } Committe
John Wright

A True Coppy Taken out of
Chelmsford Book of Records
Attested pr Simeon Procter Town Clerk.

Rev. Francis Mansfield
Son of Gardner Stilman and Eliza (Robbins) Mansfield
of Carlisle. (m. intentions Feb. 2 - 1831)
Grand Parents: Asa and Rachel (Crosby) Mansfield
John and Jane (Temple) Robbins

Dr. Mansfield had three professions:— Divinity, Medicine and Literature, in all of which he met signal success. He was rector in Brooklyn, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago. For six years he devoted his time to the practice of Medicine in Brooklyn, N.Y.

In Literature he has written six volumes whose titles are as follows: "Gathered Waifs" "Carriad, Sonnets and Rhymes" which are in verse, and "Hand Bond" "Frank Fletcher" "Reminiscences of a Old-Timer" containing an autobiography and "Down Through and Around" The last four in prose.

The following extracts were taken from type-written manuscripts which Dr. Mansfield prepared and gave to Mrs Hallie Robbins Whitney, daughter of John Robbins and his third wife, Catherine P. Cowdrey of Billerica. Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry, a half-sister of Mrs. Whitney, presented these manuscripts to the Gleason Memorial Library in 1932. They contain reminiscences of the author's childhood, family, and early career. He says "The people of those times had a certain glamour cast about them by my childish fancy; and as I now recall them to mind after twenty years of forgetfulness, cheered by occasional periods of remembrance I see them vividly as they existed in those remote days."

Dr. Francis Mansfield was born 1834 on what was later known as "the Morse place" which was first used as a house location by Jonas Robbins. This place was connected with the Ephraim Robbins place by an old road which passed over River Meadow Brook on which the Robbins' mill was situated, across meadows and up to higher land to this "Morse place", thence down again past what is today the town dump and emerged upon the Lowell road near the present house owned by Mrs George Heald. This road has been abandoned for many years. Dr. Mansfield speaks, in his manuscript which is at the Gleason Library, of the little brook which he loved and in which he and his brothers John and Henry fished with success for shiners, flatfish and hornpouts. There were also swimming pools where they enjoyed many a swim during the summer. The meadows were covered with flags and lilies during the summer time and "in the autumn farmers dug their peat for winter fuel to burn so brightly in the fire upon the old old hearth." In the winter time the meadows were flooded and made excellent skating. The boys and girls on moonlight nights skated and danced to music round the glowing fire. This meadow is now the cranberry bog. "Large barns and storehouses are built where once the farm house stood. Three of the farm houses where my forefathers lived, now wrecked and ruined by fire, lie buried in their own piles of sand heaps of ashes, all of them less than half a mile apart. Dear spots where John and I were born how sad is their decay; how precious to my heart are the embers which they left behind. There in days long gone were grand mothers Jane [Templeton Robbins] and Rachel [Crosby Mansfield], grandfathers Asa [Mansfield] and John [Robbins] also their sons and daughters Fletcher (Robbins) Eustis (Robbins) John (Mansfield) Mary (Mansfield) and my own dear father (Gardner Stilman Mansfield) and tender darling mother (Eliza [Robbins] Mansfield) all of them so dearly beloved by me, but now resembling their houses, where they dwelt, buried and decayed and moss-covered like ruined temples."

Dr. Mansfield worked on the farm when a boy and although his uncle called him lazy, he did all of his grandfather's spring ploughing one year, before he was fifteen years of age. He both drove the oxen and held the plow alone.

In speaking of his enjoyment of the birds and flowers, Mr. Mansfield says "often in the earliest spring-time I found the pink and white trailing arbutus as I dug off the dead leaves on the south side of the hill where the snow had just melted away". Today it is rare event to find the arbutus growing in Carlisle.

"In the torrid heat of the blazing sun at noonday in midsummer I often went and stood on the flagstone by the old mossy well and grasping the pole and chain in my hand, I drew down the sweep till the bucket plunged with a splash into the deep cool water, when I drew it up and poised it on the edge of the curb; and then I sipped the cold sparkling draught from the rim of the pail without a dipper and how delicious to my parched tongue, how refreshing to my thirsty lips were those chill waters in the days of my earliest childhood."

"How vivid in my memory is the time in midwinter when the whole family, the father, mother and children, sat round the open fire-place where a dozen or more of these fair apples (blue pair-main) were roasting for us all to eat after our spare supper of hasty pudding and milk."

"The red brick school-house, then new, but now growing old like myself, was situated at the top of the hill on the north side of the mill-pond where the carpenter's shop and saw-mill stood close below the pond (North School House, Lowell St.) What a novelty it was for a young lad to go down into the basement beneath the shop when they pried up the gate and let the water run; then the mill-wheel began to turn round and round and the machinery above us moved with the regularity of a clock and the long saw went up and down with great rapidity sawing off the boards and cutting up the logs. Down in this pit beneath the mill was also the place where they annually washed the sheep and cleaned their wool, and prepared the lambs for the yearly shearing-time. This sheep-shearing, too, was an interesting scene when we could hear, with conscious pride, the deep pathos of the rythmic bleatings of the flock.

"And it was on the mill-pond just above the dam, where many boys and a few girls used to slide in winter and

skate on the thick crust of solid ice, when at noontime and recess they were let loose from the school.

"Farther up the stream at the Robbins farm lies the ruin of an old grist-mill with nothing left but delapidated foundations and the upper and nether mill-stones which in days long past and gone, ground into meal between their corrugated surfaces the corn, rye, oats and grain which the farmers of the neighborhood brought to the miller to whom they paid the toll not in money but in kind. Poor old mill and miller, too; long since they have ground their grist and done their work; and both worn out they have gone together to their last rest; but those two mill stones will outlast the winds and storms of ages; on the ground beneath the ruined mill where they served their turn so well, lie these stones in pitiless neglect, unheeded by the passer-by. Thus do the useful instruments of human toil, like man himself, sink into insignificance, decay, worthlessness and oblivion."

These mill-stones described above by Dr. Mansfield, lie (1922) in the woods upon the ground. Through the central hole of one of them a tree has grown which completely fills the opening and the bark above it has bulged out in growth so it rests upon the stone. How many years this mill has been in ruins I do not know, but the tree is good evidence that it has been a long time.

Dr. Mansfield speaks of forest paths, in one of his manuscripts, through which he traveled in his boyhood.

"The whole neighborhood for the past hundred years has remained a vast woodland. Far to the North and South of the old mill, and some way to the East and West these woods stretch out to the bourne of the adjoining farm lands where Robbins and Mansfield settled in the earliest days of New England. A narrow road leading over ledges of rock between the trees which cast their shade on both sides divides this woodland into nearly equal halves; only one ox-cart or horse-wagon except in single file could pass along this lane from which extend on both sides still straighter paths, the only outlets in more than half a mile. Through this road and one of its tributary lanes I used to walk when I was a timid boy in going to and coming from the little meeting-house on

the common, where I spent the winter evenings at the village singing school. All alone through the woods I felt my way in the darkness. I sometimes kept up my courage by whistling a familiar tune, the refrain of some old song, and when this device failed to calm my fears, I started and ran with all my might as if pursued by a ferocious bear. How glad was I to reach the cleared land, the pasture and the open fields."

Dr. Mansfield speaks of his mother Eliza (Robbins) Mansfield, as follows:

"The beautiful Eliza's Puritan ancestors, descended from sturdy Scotch and English yeomanry had come from their native country to settle here among the earliest Pilgrims in New England. It was her great misfortune that her father died so young when she was barely fifteen years of age. Had he lived longer she could have continued to drive in her carriage, to wear kid gloves and dress in silks; but the mismanagement of her father's estate after his decease deprived her of a large portion of her inheritance. Attracted by her beauty two rivals for her hand in marriage quarreled in the affair of love; her successful lover married her at the age of eighteen years; the rejected one disheartened by ill luck took to the seafaring life and on his last voyage perished in a storm at sea. At the time when Eliza was married she had no cheap muslin or calico dress to wear, within one year afterwards she had nothing else to put on but muslin dresses or cambric; but she was contented and happy in these, while engaged in the duties of housekeeping and the care of her own children. How well I remember still her mahogany bureau which lasted like iron, bought with her own patrimony, and the brass andirons, shovel and tongs which stood in the old fire place. In the winter evenings we sat in the chimney corner while a bright fire was blazing on the hearth, and the whole family listened while Eliza read to us from Robinson Crusoe or the story of the forty thieves."

Deed- (Partial Copy)

From Peter and Relief Dunbar to John Robbins-

I, Peter Dunbar of Carlisle, for £132 paid by John Robins of Carlisle "convey unto the said Robins"------- "my Dwelling house and barn and about ten acres of land"------- "lying in the westerly grant of said Carlisle, bounding as follows, (viz) beginning at a Town way near sd Dwelling house and bounding easterly on the wall to the well then turning northerly by the westerly corner of sd house sixteen feet from sd corner, then easterly by the North side of sd house, keeping sixteen feet distance and thence to a post standing in the fence on the North side of a bridle way thence bounding easterly on the stone wall as it now stands to land of sd John Robins thence southerly up across sd bridle way and as the fence stands to a corner in the fence then westerly by sd Robins Land to the Town way aforesaid then northerly by sd way to the bound first mentioned, also a piece on the west side of sd way bounded at the north corner at a stake and stones by land of Nathan Crosby and bounding westerly by sd Crosbys land to an appletree marked then southerly by sd Crosbys land to a stake and stones then going easterly by sd Dunbars land to the cowyard wall thence to the Town way then by the east end of the barn and the Town way across the brook to the bound first mentioned by Crosbys land —— reserving the liberty of sd Bridle way"

March 5-1784, signed by

Peter Dunbar

Relief Dunbar (his wife)-

Rec'd Cambridge,
March 10-1784-
Book 87- p-98-

The above description seems to be the property later called the Robbins-Chamberlain place on Curve Street- nearly opposite the present cranberry bog house- It is known that John Robbins lived there and is supposed to have built the house in which he lived, but it is possible that he acquired it from the Dunbars about the time his brother Ephraim was married and brought a wife home to live

in the ancestral homestead.

The reference to Nathan Crosby's land helps to place the location. Nathan Crosby lived on what is now Martin Street which may have been the "bridle way".

Peter Dunbar's name does not appear in the Carlisle vital records, but in an old Town Book it is stated that Peter Dunbar and Leaffy his wife came to Carlisle from Stoughton in 1781. If they sold their home in 1784 they probably left town at that time.

If the Dunbar house was later the John[4] Robbins house, it was burned while widow Jane (Templeton) Robbins lived there. It was rebuilt by her son Gardner Fletcher[6] Robbins (commonly called Fletcher Robbins) and afterward acquired by Deacon Samuel Chamberlain. While he owned it, it again was consumed by fire and never rebuilt. The stone door steps, posts and shrubs remain and can easily be located from the road, on Curve Street.

Robbins Photographs and Portraits
which can be found at Gleason Public Library in Historical Collection:

1. Group of three persons; Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry, 14 yrs old, third in group.
2. " " two " " " " " second, sitting.
3. Mrs Hallie Robbins Whitney (in stripes)
4. Charles Worthley, son of Mary (Boynton) Worthley.
5. Mary Worthley.
6. Henry Worthley, son of Mary (Boynton) Worthley
7. Mrs Caroline Elizabeth (Robbins) Berry, with sunshade.
8. " " " " " in wagon.
9. " " " " " and her half-sister, Hallie (Robbins) Whitney.
10. Group of three persons, back view. Mrs Berry at extreme right.

Loose pictures:

Mrs. C. E. R. Berry when 16 yrs old.
Amy (Morgan) Bailey, dau. of Geo. E. P. Morgan
Joshua Hunt, son of Joshua & Lucia (Todd) Hunt. Civil War Musician.
Hallie E. Robbins, dau. of John[7] and Catherine (Cowdrey) Robbins.
Clara (Gilman) Robbins, wife of Charles H. Robbins.
Niles G. Robbins, son of Charles H. and Clara (Gilman) Robbins.
Anne M. Robbins, dau. of " " " " " (child)
Anne Morton Robbins " " " " " " (adult)
Clara Justina Robbins " " " " " "
Hallie E (Robbins) Whitney
Daniel Webster Robbins, taken during a furlough. He was member of Co. C. 16th Regt.; was in active service under Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker, Meade and Grant, for four years, retiring as first sergeant at End of Civil War. Enlisted when 16.
Albert Boynton, son of Samuel & Sally (Susan) Hutchinson, Boynton.
Albert m. Mary Robbins (John[3] & Jane) June 14-1839
Gardner Fletcher Robbins, son of John[3] & Jane (Templeton) Robbins (1818-1866)
(This photograph has shawl)
Gardner Fletcher Robbins, on horse. In his own handwriting he says: "G. F. Robbins and the horse that carried him with the Union Army (G.F.R. was lame) when Gen. Lee ran from the defences of Richmond, Va. to his last rebel ditch. He was driven out of his stronghold on morning of the 2nd of April 1865 where he had covered himself four years, was caught in eight days, surrendered at Clover Hill, Va."

Ancient Carlisle Pines

A VISTA THROUGH THE RESERVATION — Note the great hights of the trees in comparison to e men in the foreground.

4

The road to the Carlisle Pines from the Dow farm.

THE MISSES JULIA P. AND ELEANOR L. WARREN (below) standing alongside a giant which measures eleven feet in circumference, "waist high."

THE CARLISLE PINES, a group of the finest specimens of the old New England white pine, located in the town of Carlisle, Mass, near the Chelmsford line, are nearing the end of their long lives. Some are dead and others are so nearly gone that Chief Forester Harold P Cook of the State Forestry Department has "scarfed" 30 of them for the woodman's axe. The Appalachian Club, which owns the reservation, is making strenuous efforts to preserve the rest of the old giants.

Arthur M Warren of Chelmsford Center is engaged in cutting out the marked trees, the clear stock of which will cut up into lumber equal to the finest Michigan pine. The present market price of this quality of wood for interior finish is around $250 a thousand feet Each of these trees will cut from 1800 to 2000 feet of lumber

Great skill is necessary in felling the trees, which are fairly close together, to prevent injury to those which are to be preserved. Their average hight is 110 feet and their girth between 10 and 11 feet When the trees crash to the ground the surrounding earth and the growing things on it quiver as if in protest al the destruction—venerable and magnifirent specimens which Dame Nature spent some 150 years in raising

The rings in the butts of the fallen trees show a rapid growth up to about 75 years ago, and a gradual slowing down since, until the growth is scarcely perceptible, and in some has ceased. The age of the tree is counted in the number of rings and the growth in the separation of the rings, the greater the separation the more rapid the growth. The greatest separation is about half an inch, when the tree was in the full vigor of its youth, some 50 years old. The last rings are so closely marked together that a razor blade would be necessary to divide them.

This reservation of old pines is on the road from South Chelmsford to Carlisle, near the Carlisle-Chelmsford line. It is about two miles south of South Chelmsford Station of the N. Y., N. H. & H. Railroad, and is 15 minutes' walk in from the road. The entrance is marked by a sign, "Carlisle Pines," and similar signs are along the road.

Leonard Small.

AMONG THE CARLISLE PINES

By permission of The Boston Globe

Trees

By

ROBERT P. TRISTRAM COFFIN

THE maple is for tables, spread
With golden-crusted, kindly bread;
It sends the sirup that can bring
The resurrection of the Spring.

The oak—that's for men's yokes and carts,
Faith and harrows and their hearts.

The fir tree is the roving tree,
And wears great sails across the sea.

The apple is the heaven's gate;
The rains of life on poplars wait.

But houses where we love and dine
Are grown and sanctified in pine,
And over all our joys is hung
The music that its boughs have sung.

CARLISLE PINES RESERVATION.

This reservation, in the town of Carlisle, Massachusetts, is notable for its one hundred great white pines, two and one half to three and one half feet in diameter and one hundred to one hundred and twenty feet tall, as large and fine as New England can produce, and probably the largest to be found in southern New England, excepting individual trees here and there elsewhere. The fund for the purchase of this reservation, ten acres in extent, was raised by public subscription in 1902, through the efforts of the Massachusetts Forestry Association and the Boston *Transcript*. Mr. Arthur Warren, of Chelmsford, contributed handsomely; the Society for Promoting Agriculture gave five hundred dollars; and the Appalachian Mountain Club, one hundred dollars. The hardwood trees have been cut so as to give prominence to the big pines, and to render possible the growth of others, and especially to deprive the young gypsy moths of food. In 1912 the Club enlarged this reservation by the purchase of ten adjoining acres, which contain a good growth of pines, though none of them approach the size of our large trees. The Forestry Department of the Commonwealth considers this reservation of such importance that it has cooperated with us in its protection. The reservation is reached most readily from Boston by the Lexington Branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad, or by street-car, to Bedford, and thence by a drive or walk six miles through Carlisle village to E. L. Dow's house upon Curve Street. It also may be reached by the Boston & Maine Railroad to Concord Junction, where change is made to the Lowell branch of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, stopping at Carlisle station, a flag-station about a mile from Mr. Dow's house. One also may easily drive from Concord, or Chelmsford. The reservation lies back half a mile from Curve Street, over a rough wood-road. With the consent of the Carlisle selectmen, a sign has been placed at the entrance upon Curve Street; and there are finger-boards at intervals along the wood-road.

5

Robbins Hill - Chelmsford, Mass -

In 1902 there stood a large pine near the School-house in the village that was probably larger than any single tree on the Carlisle Reservation of the Appalachian Mountain Club, commonly known as the Carlisle Pines. It was on the land now called Spaulding Park. The tree was cut in 1912.

Barrett.

I Thomas Barrett, m. Margaret---
II John Barrett m. Sarah--
III John Barrett m. 1679, Dorothy Proctor. She m. (2nd), Samuel Robbins, Chelmsford, March 4-1702.
IV Joseph Barrett m. Abigail---
V Benjamin Barrett, m. Elizabeth-
VI Christopher Barrett m. 1764, Mary Clark
VII Benjamin Barrett (1767-1830) m. 1786, Sarah (Cynthia?) Chamberlin
VIII Benjamin Barrett (1797-) m. (1) Mary Ann Barrett
(2) Sabra (Nickles) Hull.

I

Thomas[1] Barrett, m. Margaret--- He was born in England, came to America between 1635 and 1640, and died in Chelmsford, Mass. Oct. 6-1668. He was first in Braintree, then Chelmsford. Margaret d. Chelmsford. July 8-1681.
Children: John[2], Thomas, Joseph, Mary.

II

Lieut. John[2] Barrett, b. probably in England, d. Chelmsford. May 19-1706; m. Sarah--- Their children were:—

1. John[3] b. m. Chelmsford, Dec. 18-1679 Dorothy Proctor.
2. Jonathan[3], m. Sarah Learned; 5 children
m. (2nd) Abigail Weston; 3 "
m. (3rd) Abigail (Wilson) Hildreth; 1 son.
3. Lydia, m. 1678, James Harwood
4. Samuel[3] m. 1683, Sarah Buttrick
5. Mary[3] m. 1693, Nathaniel Collar of Sudbury.
6. Margaret[3] (1667-1681)
7. Joseph[3] m. 1696, Abigail Hildreth
8. Sarah (?) m. 1696, Ambrose Swallow.

III

John[3] Barrett, b.
m. Chelmsford, Dec. 18-1679, Dorothy[2] Proctor, b. 1654, dau. of Robert[1] and Jane (Hildreth) Proctor.
Ch:-

1. Joseph[4] b. (twin) Chelmsford, Oct. 20-1690, d.
m. Abigail ---- who d. Dec. 30-1729.
2. Benjamin[4] b. (twin) Chelmsford, Oct. 20-1690, d. Chelmsford.

IV

Joseph[4] Barrett, b. Chelmsford, Oct. 20-1690, d.
m. Abigail --- b. d. Dec. 30-1729.
children:—
1. Benjamin[5], b. 1711 d. 1745
m. Elizabeth

V

Benjamin[5] Barrett, b. Chelmsford, Sept 30-1711 or Oct. 20-1690?
d. Chelmsford, Nov. 13-1745,
m. Elizabeth ---
children:
1. Ruth, b. Chelmsford, Jan 5-1734/5, d. March 21-1734/5.
2. Christopher[5], b. Chelmsford, Feb. 6-1739
m. 1764, Mary Clark.
3. Betty, b. Chelmsford, Jan. 26-1742/3.

VI

Christopher[6] Barrett, b. Chelmsford, Feb. 6-1739, d. 1789 (South Middlesex Probate); m. Chelmsford, Sept. 6-1764, Mary Clark who survived her husband.
children:
1. Zebulun[7], b. Chelmsford, Feb. 9-1766.
m. Beulah and lived in Ashby, Mass.
2. Benjamin[7], b. Chelmsford, May 27-1767, d. Carlisle, Dec. 19-1830 aged 64. m. Sept. 3-1786, Sarah Chamberlin, b. Chelmsford, Aug. 19-1764, d. Carlisle, May 27-1834 aged 69. dau. of Benjamin Chamberlin, Jr. & Susanna.
3. John[7], b. Chelmsford, March 4-1769
4. Sibyl[7], bp. Chelmsford, April 28-1771, d. Ashby, Sept. 16-1859, ae. 85 yrs 5 mos.
m. Ashby, Jeremiah Wheeler March. Their daughter, Mary March, m. Samuel Heald, Jr. of Carlisle.
5. William[7], b. Carlisle, April 20-1778,
m. 1809, Hannah Wason of Nottingham West.
6. Samuel[7], b. Carlisle, May 24-1780
m. (int. Carlisle) Dec. 8-1804, Rachel Brown of Billerica.

VII

Benjamin[7] Barrett, b. Chelmsford, May 27-1767, d. Carlisle, Dec. 19-1830 aged 64; m. Sept 3-1786, Sarah Chamberlin, b. Chelmsford, Aug 19-1764, d. Carlisle May 27-1834 aged 69, dau. of Benjamin & Susanna ( ) Chamberlin, Jr.
(continued)

children of Benjamin[7] and Sarah (Chamberlin) Barrett:-

1. Hugh Cargill, b. Dec. 18-1786, d. June 2-1814 aged 27
2. Sarah, b. Oct. 17-1788
3. Cinthya b. Jan. 11-1791, m. Samuel Dennis of Boston, May 1-1811.
4. Lucy, b. Sept. 15-1792
5. Julia b. Aug. 31-1794, d. June 3-1819 aged 25
6. Benjamin[8] b. July 31-1797
   m. (1st) Mary Ann Barrett
   (2nd) Sabra (Nickles) Hull.
7. Samuel Chamberlin, twin, b. Feb. 24-1802, d. Sept. 11-1805 ae. 3 y. 6 m.
8. Benjamin Franklin, twin, b. Feb. 24-1802, d. Sept. 27-1858 ae. 56 y. 6 m.
   (death record, State House, Boston, Vol. 121, p. 90; d. Rock Island, Ill, buried Carlisle) In Carlisle Congregational Church Book, 1853-1879, it says "Hon. B.F. Barrett of Rock Island, Ill. funeral at his mother's, Sept 20-1858 aged 56 yrs."

Benjamin[7] Barrett owned the place on Curve St, later known as the J. B. Hall place, which was destroyed by fire. He moved to the village and lived in a house located where the Isaac Knight house is now, but which was also destroyed by fire. Dr. Austin Marsh lived in the same house.

Benjamin[7] Barrett was awarded the contract for building the North School-house near the junction of Curve and Lowell Streets. (See Bells' Hist. of Carlisle, p. 48)

VIII

Benjamin[8] Barrett, b. Carlisle, July 31-1797, d. there March 10-1873 aged 75-7-9 (State House record - Vol. 257, p. 131)

m. (1st) Mary Ann Barrett of Ashby who d. Sept. 4-1854 aged 59 y 11 m. dau. of Capt. Jonathan[6] and Polly (Pollard) Barrett.

(2nd) Manchester, N.H. Feb. 11-1857, Sabra (Nickles) Hull, b. April 30 1818, d. Nov. 9-1901 aged 83-6-9. dau. of Capt. Ezekiel Nickles. When married, Benjamin[8] was 59 and she was 39.

Benjamin[8] Barrett built the house on Lowell Street, Carlisle, where Rev. Martin Lovering later lived, and now owned by Mrs Fornant. He sold the land for the parsonage for $85. He and his second wife both died at that place. After Mrs Barrett died, what property there was went to Richmond Hull, a son by a former husband. He had no auction, but sold furnishings at private sale. He took some of the best things with him to Idaho, such as Mrs Barrett's mahogany parlor chairs.

Benjamin[8] Barrett was selectman in Carlisle 2 years, 1839 & 1842. Mrs Sabra (Nickles) Hull was daughter of Capt. Ezekiel and Rebecca (Wilkins) Nickles. She was widow of Benjamin L. Hull. The obituary in the Lowell paper stated that Mrs Sabra Barrett left two sons by her first marriage:

1. George Hull of Jerome, Arizona.
2. Richmond Hull of Challis, Idaho.

Barrett lines connected with Carlisle families.

I	Thomas Barrett	m. Margaret	m. about 1620
II	John "	m. Sarah	" 1650
III	Jonathan "	m. (1) Sarah Learned	
		(2) Abigail Weston	
		(3) Abigail (Wilson) Hildreth	" 1708
IV	John (son of 3rd wife)	m. Martha Heald	m. 1738
V	Jonathan	m. Abigail Raymond	m. 1771
VI	Jonathan	m. Polly Pollard	m. 1794
VII	Mary Ann	m. Benjamin Barrett	

I	Thomas Barrett	m. Margaret	
II	Thomas	m. Frances Woolderson	m. 1655
III	Mary	m. George[1] Robbins	m. 1686, 7

I	Thomas Barrett	m. Margaret
II	John	m. Sarah
III	Jonathan	m. Sarah Learned
IV	Jonathan	m. Lydia
? V	Elizabeth	m. John Heald, b. Feb. 14, 1720/1 son John[5] [Chandler] Mary

Elizabeth's brother John[5] m. Martha Heald.

Barritt land.

The following is a copy of an old affadavit found by Miss Quilette in the Deren barn, 1933.

Copy.

Chelmsford, October 25 = 1725 Land Laid out to Joseph Barritt Senr in the fourth Division of Commons and on the Right of John Barritt, Senr Deceased one acer more or Lefs Lying on the South Side of Great Brook and is Bounded at the most Northerly Corner on a White oak Tree near ----(illegible) Great Brook then going Esterly by a Dead Black oak Tree to a Green Black oak Tree at the most Esterly Corner then going westerly To a Black oak Tree then going by marked Trees unto the Bounds first mentioned

And Also one Quarter of an acer more or Lefs in the Division Above said and on the Right above sd and Lyeth on the west Side of Great Brook and is Bounded at the most Southerly Corner on a Black oak Tree Then going to a Black oak Tree at the most westerly Corner then going to a Black Oak Tree at the most Northerly Corner then going to a Black oak Tree at the most Esterly Corner and from Thence to the Bounds first mentioned but not to hinder a Highway Through Sd Land pr. Benjn Adams Town Clerk

Entered August ye 13 – 1726
Chelmsford January ye 18 – 1771
A True Copey Taken out of
Chelmsford Book of Records
Attested Simeon Procter Town Clerk

Ephraim Hildreth
Ebenezer Wright
John Wright
} Committee

Revolutionary Record.

Benjamin Barrett, Chelmsford.
Corporal, Capt. John Ford's Co., Col. Ebenezer Bridge's (27th) Regt.; enlisted April 25, 1775; roll made up to Aug 1, 1775; service, 3 mos., 14 days.

Benjamin Barrit, Chelmsford.
Private, Capt. Oliver Barron's Co., Col. David Green's Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19- 1775; service 6 days.

Benjamin Berret, Chelmsford.
Corporal; descriptive list of enlisted men; Capt. John Ford's Co., Col. Bridge's Regt.; age, 42 yrs.; stature, 6 ft.; complexion, light; occupation, farmer; residence, Chelmsford; enlisted April 25, 1775; also, Capt. Ford's Co., Col. Bridge's (27th) Regt.; company return dated Sept. 25- 1775.

Benjamin Berrett, Chelmsford.
Corporal, Capt. John Ford's Co., Col. Ebenezer Bridge's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug 1, 1775; enlisted April 25—1775; service 3 mos., 14 days.

FLETCHER-ROBBINS HOUSE
Westford Street

Historical Sketch

Henry Fletcher Family

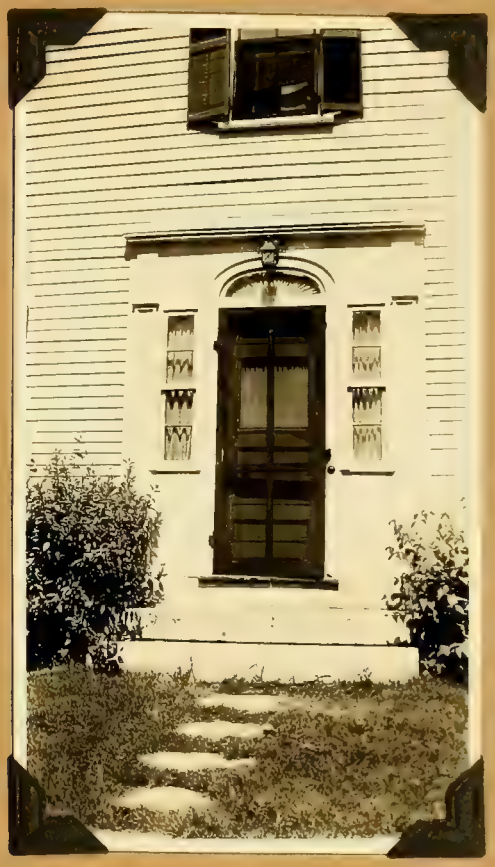
Capt. Aaron Fletcher Family

The Village Pound -

Residence of William F. Robbins.
Built 1816.
Photographed about 1900.
Known as the Boynton place;
also Fletcher place.

photographed 1931 - by Mrs B. P. Wilkins.

11



12

Residence of William F. Robbins -

Westford Street -

photographed 1931 -

Built 1816

By Captain Aaron Fletcher -

Fletcher-Robbins house.
Westford Street.

Captain Aaron Fletcher was probably the first owner of this house, and he may have built it prior to 1813, although there is a dated stone in the cellar which is marked 1816. When Reuben Duren deeded land to the town to add to the Common, April 2-1813, he mentions Aaron Fletcher's blacksmith shop, which yet remains on Concord Street, and which is only divided from the house lot by a small piece of meadow land. As he was married in 1806 and his third child was born in Carlisle in 1811, it seems logical to suppose he was then living where we find him a few years later.

On November 14-1826, Aaron Fletcher deeded to the town, for $2, about 4 rods of land for a town pound, lying on the north side of the county road a little west of my barn." This is the spot now occupied by the hen-house attached to the west side of the present Robbins barn on Westford Street.

Captain Fletcher seems to have been a substantial citizen and helpful in all good works. He held town office as a selectman in 1818 and 1819, and it was in his house that the Union Calvanistic Church was organized Nov. 20-1830, according to law, and necessary officers chosen. This is now called the Carlisle Congregational Church, and his name appears on the church roll as a life-long member.

Sometime between 1850 and 60, he sold his farm property here to Albert Boynton and apparently went to live with a daughter in the west part of the town, on what is now the Andrew Sorli place. He had a family of seven children, and died in 1867 at the age of 89 years.

Mrs Elizabeth Robbins Berry, when a child, boarded with her great-aunt, Mrs Albert Boynton, while her father was in the Civil War. She says" I think the house must be older than given (1816). I know Uncle Albert Boynton claimed it was one of the oldest in town. It formerly had an enormous chimney, which when removed, made room for what is now the dining room. There was an enormous fireplace in the kitchen and a mammoth brick oven. In my childhood day, a stove was in the fire-place but the recess remained, and I used to like to sit upon - a wood-box in the depths, where it was nice and warm. Over the kitchen was an unfinished attic. When Uncle Daniel

Robbins took the house (1885) he added all those upper rooms which now are in the Ell. The latter was an open woodshed, and beyond, a summer washroom."

Albert Boynton, son of Samuel and Sarah Snow (Hutchinson) Boynton, married Mary Robbins, daughter of John[3] and Jane (Templeton) Robbins, June 14-1839. Their family consisted of two sons, Albert Robbins and Alvah Dana, and three daughters, Mary Jane, Almarine Augusta, and Martha Etta. Mr. Boynton carried on this village farm until 1885, when he sold it to his nephew Daniel W. Robbins who lived here many years.

Mrs. Boynton's brother, the father of Daniel W. Robbins, was John Robbins, a native and life-long resident of Carlisle. He was noted as being the largest man in Middlesex County, weighing 450 pounds. His wife, Caroline Lakin, was also a native of Carlisle. They reared seven children: John, Samuel H., Paulina N., Mary H., Charles H., Maria G., and Daniel Webster, the last being the third owner of the Aaron Fletcher farm.

When John D. Robbins died, it was found impossible to take the casket into the church building because of its great size, so the funeral was held under the trees in front of the Congregational Church; and the casket was placed in a farm wagon. Mr. Robbins was a man of normal and active mind, and was greatly incensed by an offer to appear in a circus.

Daniel W. Robbins received a district school education. When sixteen years of age he enlisted in Company C. of the Sixteenth Regiment of Massachusetts Volenteer Infantry, which afterward consolidated with the First, became the Eleventh Regiment. He saw continuous active service for four years, except a furlough of 30 days. He was slightly wounded at Spottsylvania; he was an eye-witness of the fight between the Merrimac and Monitor, and he was present at Lee's surrender at Appomattox, also participated in Early's raid on Washington.

After returning home, July 1865, he started for California in 1866, going by way of the Isthmus of Panama, making the journey in twenty-one days. He remained in California about four years, then returned East. He learned the trades of plasterer and brick-layer and did that work for many years besides carrying on the farm. He did the mason work on the Gleason Public Library which is a credit to his skill.

Mr. Robbins married in 1871, Lizzie Luella, daughter of Horace N. and Sibyl (Spaulding) Wilson, who was born in Billerica, Mass.

They had seven children: Alice Luella who married George E. Wilkins, Wallace Andrews who died young, Fred Everett who married Ruth Martin, and infant son who died, Sarah Frances who married Edward S. Ricker, Waldo Sherman who died in young manhood, and William Francis the present owner of this house

Mr. Daniel Robbins was active in G.A.R. Garfield Post 120, and Chelmsford Odd Fellows. He was selectman in Carlisle for seven years, being chairman of the Board most of that time; town assessor, constable twelve years, and for twenty years a member of the State Militia. When he passed away, April 20 - 1927, he had survived all other Civil War soldiers living in Carlisle.

Mrs Daniel Robbins delighted in flowers. Her roadside planting of red rambler roses, on Westford St, was one of Carlisle's first roadside displays, and elicited much admiration from both residents and travellers.

William F. Robbins, the youngest son of Daniel W. Robbins took over the home farm several years before his father died, but his work was in Watertown in a large manufacturing plant, to which he commuted daily. Eventually he changed his business connections and removed to Worcester, Mass., with his family. He still owns the property here and at present, (1938) it is occupied by his daughter Andrew and her husband, Mr. William Robinson.

Martha F. Wilkins, April 1938.

References:

Biographical Review, p. 266
Bull's History of Carlisle.
Correspondence of Mrs. E. R. Berry.

Fletcher.

See Hodgman's "Westford."

Henry[3] Fletcher, b. 1751 d.
son of Reuben[2] and Susanna (Chandler) Fletcher. Reuben son of Wm.[1])
married Nov. 30-1773 in Westford, Mass.
Deborah Parker b. May 25-1751, Westford, d.
dau. of Aaron, Jr. and Dorothy
children: 1. Aaron, b. Oct. 14-1774, d. Jan. 13-1775, Carlisle.
2. William, b. March 31-1776
3. Aaron[4], b. Nov. 18-1777, m. Sarah Neif
4. Isaac, b. July 5-1779.

Captain Aaron[4] Fletcher, b. Carlisle, Nov. 18-1777, d. Feb. 9-1867, ae 89.
son of Henry and Deborah (Parker) Fletcher of Carlisle.
married at Chelmsford, Mass. Dec. 16-1806,
Sally (Sarah) Neif, b. Carlisle d. July 26 1874 ae. 92y
8m. 14d.; dau. of Patricle and Mary (Heald) Neif (Neef, Neff.)
children:

1. Benjamin F.[5] b. Chelmsford, Sept. 22-1807, d. Sept. 29-1810.
2. Albert[5] b. Chelmsford, Nov. 21-1808, d. Carlisle, May (19) 20-1816.
3
3. Mary Heald, b. May 7-1811, d. Sept. 3-1821, Carlisle.
4. Rebecca P. b. March 30-1814, m. Nov. 19-1840, Edward Symmes of Westford.
5. Hannah E. b. May 4-1818, d. Carlisle Sept. 7-1821.
6. Charles Grandison[5], b. Carlisle, Aug. 13-1821, d. June 21-1904 at Lexington, Mass.
m. Hannah Proctor Blood at Concord, Nov. 30-1843, dau. of Phineas & Hannah (Proctor) Blood.
ch: son, b. Sept. 14-1845, Carlisle
Ellen Hulmanah, b. Carlisle, Oct. 27-1848.
7. Harriett B. b. Aug. 16-1823, d. Dec. 17-1883, Carlisle.
m. May 2-1844, Henry Spaulding, b. July 25-1815, d. Aug 10-1884.

13

Daniel Webster Robbins

and Edward Everett Lapham

The Village Pound.

In the Town Book No 1, pages 22 and 23 we find the following:-
"At a Meeting held Sept. 4th 1780 for the Purpose of Electing a Governor Lieutenant Governor and Persons for Counsellors and Senators agreable to a Resolution of the Convention" and the only other article in the warrant was "2ly to See what the district will Do as to Erecting or Building a Pound or act anything thereon as they think Proper".

It was "Voted on the Article Respecting a Pound and Chose a Committe of three Persons" "Voted Capt. Samuel Heald Mr Timothy Wilkins and Mr Ebenezer Hardy be the Committee." "Voted that the Committe See that the Pound be built."

On page 274, Book 1, the fourth order on the page is :—
"Carlisle, March 2th, 1786. To Capt. Samuel Heald Treasurer Sir please to pay out of the District money to Mr. Timothy Wilkins Junr the following sum viz one pound Fifteen Shillings and 2 pence it being for his Entertaining the Selectmen the year past when in public business and to other accopts the sum of sixteen shillings and this shall Discharge you for that sum- Total £2 :11:2

By order of the Selectmen Asa Parlin, District Cler."

A note beside the above order reads "the other accounts for building a gate to the pound".

No indication is here given as to the location of this pound, which was probably the first one built by the people of Carlisle.

When the first Parish Church was rebuilt in 1811, the records state that some of the stone from the pound was used in the foundation. This would seem to show that the pound was being dismantled. Perhaps it was located too near the Church.

In the Town Book #4, p. 350 we read of a meeting held May 4-1812. One of the articles in the warrant was:—
"First to see if the town will agree to build a pound in the town or act on the article as they may think proper."

On p. 351. "1 article. Voted to Build a pound in the town also voted that the Selectmen be a committee to procure a spot to set a pound and to let it out to be built to the lowest Bidder and to be built of wood.

"Voted to amend the foregoing vote so as to leve it discret-

I

Old Russell House, Built 1680

Photographed 1890. (by Frank Wing.)

Torn down about 1903.

ionary with the Selectmen to have it built with stone if they think it will be cheepest for the Town."

Carlisle, May 28-1812 - (p. 431) The conditions for building a pound, the pound is to be twenty four feet on the inside of the wall and to be four feet and a half thick at the bottom and twenty inches at the top and six feet high without the cap and to be perpendicular on the inside and to have a cap piece round the top to be of white pine with a fastening at the ends to hold them together and to come to an edge at the top and to be nine inches deep and painted over twice with Spanish brown with a sufficient gate made with good white oak timber and well set into the ground and the gate to be let into the posts so that it cannot be hoisted of the hinges and to be compleated in two months and to have their pay in a town order when the taxes are made it was struck of to Mr. Nathaniel Parker at twenty five Dollars ---------- $25:00

The Pound Keeper -

Book 1 - p. 430 and 432 -

March 7 - 1796 - " 5 ly - To see if the District will chuse a pound keeper"

" Voted to chuse a pound keeper -

" Voted and chose Lieut. Daniel Wheat for pound keeper."

The practice of choosing a pound keeper keeps up to the present day, although a real village pound is a rare sight.

Guy W. Clark is pound keeper in Carlisle in 1941.

The last pound was located a few rods from the village on the Westford Road, and has since been removed by consent of the town (Bull's Hist. of Carlisle, p. 30). The walls of the pound became the foundation walls of a hen-house erected by Daniel W. Robbins as a west wing to his barn. The land was deeded to the town for $2, on Nov. 14, 1826 by Aaron Fletcher, and was designated as "lying on the north side of the county road a little west of my barn" and contained about four rods of land for a town pound.

OLD RUSSELL HOUSE
Once on Russell Street

The Old Russell House by William L. Russell, M.D. 1879-80

Occupants of Russell House

"A Slight Mistake" Concerning Mr. Ai Heald

Russell Genealogy

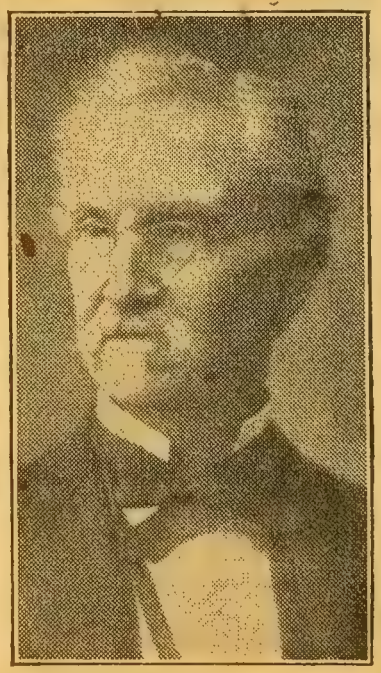
John Russell's Apprenticeship Contract

Deed: William Russell to Jonathan Wheeler, 1731

LOWELL High School Faculty in 1868

Miss Lizzie Russell — Joseph L. McDaniels — Miss M. A. Webster
Jas. S. Russell — C. C. Chase — Levi Burbank

Before 1840, but one assistant was employed, much of the time, and



JAMES S. RUSSELL.

never more than two, this for lack of both funds and room. The first assistant under Mr. Clark was John M. Clapp, but there appears to be no record of him except his name.

In 1835, James S. Russell was made assistant to Mr. Forbes and later, Mr. Seth Pooler was appointed a second assistant, to teach English grammar and other English branches. All recitations, until 1837, were in one room. Mr. Russell's place was, for a time filled by Mr. Abner H. Brown, one of the first members of the school and a graduate of Dartmouth. He was elected principal in 1842, but, on account of ill health, he was unable to accept the position.

In 1840, with more commodious quarters, three assistants were employed;

James S. Russell, teacher of mathematics, Seth Pooler, teacher of English, John H. Brown, teacher of languages. Later, David C. Scobey, succeeded Mr. Brown.

One of these assistants, Mr. Russell, deserves more than a passing notice, as he was for many years a member of the High School faculty. Mr. Benjamin Walker, in his "Early Recollections of Lowell" said of him "He was the very incarnation of mathematical precision, forcible and vigorous in his teaching, without any remarkable stock of patience with stupidity, but enthusiastic over those who were quick and bright enough to follow him in his problems."

The Old Russell House— Built 1680 by Benjamin Russell.

From a newspaper article
written by Wm. L. Russell, M.D.

Time, in its unceasing progression of years and decades and centuries, aided often by the vandal hand of man, has effaced many of the landmarks established by the early settlers of Carlisle. Few now exist that date back beyond the commencement of the seventeenth century. The traditionary stake has decayed and fallen, and the stones have become imbedded in the earth. The long-lived oak, "blazed" in its sapling stage by the hatchet of the surveyor, has grown old, borne its "crests of orenwood" and died, and the firm rock has been removed out of its place. A depression in the earth, a foot-worn slab, or an "aged Elm" are the only monuments left to mark the site of many of the rude dwellings of those hardy pioneers. Some still stand whose antiquity has been disguised under a modern finish, and which have little to identify them with the past except the capacious chimneys and their solid and almost indestructible framework. Here and there one still stands and retains enough of its oregiual style and finish to render it an object of veneration and instruction and to teach us where and how they who reared them lived and toiled to provide and transmit so many of the privileges we now enjoy.

Among the spared relics there is not, perhaps, one more interesting and worthy of a visit, than the Russell House, now owned and occupied by Mr E. J. Carr. It is situated in the south part of the town about one fourth of a mile east of the road leading to Concord, and stands on a sand bluff on the left bank of a small stream named in the early Massachusetts records Alewife river, and later called Spencer brook. Probably the first name given to it was suggested by the large quantity of the fish of that name that annually ascended the stream and were used not only as an article of food but also as a fertilizer for the farms on its banks. The house was built about 1680. As originally constructed it was a single two-story house with two rooms on each floor about 20 feet square, with an entry between, 8 or 10 feet in length, and as much in width. Subsequently a lean-to upon the back side of the main house, of one story, was added, and the roof on that side extended down over the addition. There was a single chimney which was 10 feet square at the bottom and

and five at the top. The dimensions of the fire-places in each of the lower rooms were five feet in height, eight feet in width, and four feet deep. The mantels over the fire-places and other main timbers are ten to twelve inches square of solid oak and as sound today as when drawn from the forest nearly two hundred years ago. The rooms were sealed up with boards two and three feet wide and the space between the outer and inner boarding up to the second floor was filled with brick as a defence against the attack of Indians. The builder of the house was Benjamin Russell, who was born in Cambridge in 1643. He removed to that part of Concord now Carlisle in 1680, and commenced work on his house the same year. He died in 1713, and his son William who was born in Cambridge in 1667, inherited the homestead. He married Hannah Adams and died in 1717. His son James, born in 1695 succeeded him. He married Susannah Farrar, and died in 1773. James, his oldest son inherited the estate. He was born 1723; married Lydia Potter in 1764, and died Aug. 17-1801. He was succeeded by a third James, who was born May 9,-1775 and married Mary Butler. He disposed of the old homestead in 1826, and removed to Lowell where he died in 1862. His surviving children are Dr. William L., a practicing physician of Barre, Mass., Prof. James S., the distinguished teacher of mathematics in the Lowell High School, and George W., a well known carriage maker of Worcester, Mass. Several descendants of the Russell family in the female line, still reside in this town, but the male line is unrepresented. The five generations of Russells that successively occupied the old place were respectable farmers, contented to fulfill the duties of good citizens and never aspiring to places of responsibility or distinction. The second James held a lieutenancy in the French and Indian war of 1755, and did good services in war of the Revolution.

A few weeks subsequent to its sale by Mr Russell, the old place fell into the possession of "Ai", Heald a well known sportsman, who fired the famous shots that made him so well known to the readers of the Journal. During the years of its occupancy by him, he extended a welcome hospitality to his brother sportsmen of the vicinity, and many scenes of mirth and high wassail by the "Old Nimrods" of Lowell were witnessed in his spacious rooms.

The present owner of the place is a progressive man. He has

built a capacious and convenient barn, renovated some of the delapidated fences, and is fast bringing back the neglected fields to their original fertility and productive-ness. We hope his energies may find sufficient scope in this direction, to divert for many years to come, the hand of improvement from being laid too heavily on the venerable old mansion. Since its massive timbers were joined together, the Indian has gone to other hunting grounds, the bear has disappeared from the forests that gave him shelter, and the men and women of many generations have passed its portals never to return. An elm planted more than a century after this house was reared, has grown to giant proportions, and thrown its protecting arms over the old roof tree to guard it from the assults of elements and men. Let us accept the omen and hope and pray for the preservation of the Old Russell house.

From the Lowell (Mass) Journal about 1879/80.

Jefferson Green lived in this house, after the Russells. He married Luranah Forbush, Dec. 25-1825, and died March 26-1832, being thirty years old. Their son Thomas Jefferson Green, born Oct 24-1826, became the husband of Emma Jane Wilkins and lived in the house now occupied by James Harry Wilkins on Bedford Road.

The young widow, Luranah (Forbush) Green, married, second, Ai Heald, Jan. 31-1837, and they were the parents of two children: (1) Ai Green Heald, b. Feb. 12-1840, drowned July 12-1850, and Luranah Maria Heald, b. Nov. 2-1846, who married Edward J. Carr.

Both Ai Heald and E. J. Carr lived in the Russell house.

An old news clipping says:

"The Ladies Circle met last Friday with Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Carr in the old Russell house. A large number were present; the tables were filled five times, a dozen people at each sitting. At the first, the united ages of six of the party aggregated 470 years, the oldest present (also in town) being the mother of Mr. Carr, 86 years of age."

The Russell house stood across the road, now named Russell street, from the present home of Mr. Herbert Dutton, the newer house being also located on the old Russell farm. The farm has been in the following ownership: the Russells, Jefferson Green, Ai Heald, E. J. Carr, Charles Carr, Paris N. Bond and Herbert Dutton. The old house was torn down before 1903 and the new residence erected across the road. The big elm is still standing which stood near the old house. 1935.

William Russell of Lowell. Mass, wrote the history of the Russell house which was printed in the newspaper. When he was a small boy he carved his initials W R on a stepping stone or door rock near the front door, using up an entire knife in doing so. When an old man, near 90, he returned to see the house and found the initials still showed.

The spot is now covered by Mr. Herbert Dutton's garage but no one there remembers ever seeing the stone with initials upon it. They did say some of the old paneled boards from the original Russell house are in the cow barn in front of the cows. (1937.)

A Slight Mistake -

About Mr Ai Heald -
from a newspaper clipping -

At early dawn on New Year's morning Ai, who is an early riser, discerned the outlines of a large bird, which he readily determined to be an owl, perched upon the ridgepole of his barn, patiently waiting for an opportunity to pounce down upon the earliest straggler from the hennery. Now Ai is of the Nimrod class and always prepared for such an emergency. He seized his well charged rifle, and after crawling stealthily through the crisp snow for a considerable distance to attain a favorable position raised his death dealing weapon and fired. His aim was sure. The lifeless body of his victim rolled from its elevated perch and buried itself in the snow, on the opposite side of the barn. Ai hastened to secure his trophy, which he had already generously determined to send as a New Year's present to Wh——r, but imagine his disgust, and the hard words, not pleasing to ears polite and pious, that greeted the discovery of the body, not of an owl, but that of his favorite old Brahma.

"Who'd laid her master many eggs,
Which from the nest he oft had taken,
To put in cake or fry with bacon."

Ai is reticent; but his silent prayer is — Tell it not to B—— or Wh——r, publish it not in the Lowell Journal.

Another version -

A nice jolly Farmer from the town of Carlisle,
Who raises good corn and sometimes takes a "Smile",
Said one eve to his wife, (which is part of this ditty)
I must rise very early and go to the city.

So early to bed, that he might early rise,
And grow, as the couplet says, "wealthy and wise."
He slept the sound sleep of the honest and true
And woke as the stars shone above him in blue.

The old mare must be fed, ere the journey she takes,
And an extra good feed the kind farmer makes;
And he comes from the barn, looking up to the sky
When a very large "owl" on the ridge he did spy.

He had missed many chickens in days that were gone,
So he wisely concluded to honor the morn,

With a sharp, loud salute, and, at the same time,
Give a dose to the thief who committed the crime.

So he crept in quite slyly to get his old gun,
Came out, took good aim, and chuckled with fun;
When, after a "bang" and a shocking rebound,
The bird squeaked and fluttered and fell to the ground.

All rushed to the spot for the neighbors had feared
That some robber or rascal in the barn had appeared;
He went for the bird; he grasped it — and then
Why lo and behold! he had shot his black hen!

Moral.

In getting up early look out that your eyes,
In the glimmer of morn, ere the sunbeams arise,
Don't make you like him and other such men,
Go it blind for an owl and shoot your best hen.

Russell-

Descended from a Norman French family, founded as early as 1016. The English representative of this family was John, Earl of Bedford, and to him William Russell, the first American ancestor traced his ancestry. He came from England and settled in Cambridge, Mass. about 1640.

I

William[1] Russell of Cambridge, Mass. d. Menotomy, Feb 14-1661 m. Martha, who m. (2nd) 1665 Humphrey Bradshaw, and (3rd) 1684, Thomas Hall. She d. about 1694.

II

Benjamin[2] Russell, b. Cambridge 1643, came to Carlisle in 1680, d. Jan 8-1712/13, m. after 1664, Rebecca---- Children born in Concord (others, in Cambridge):- Mary, b. Aug 4-1683, and John, b. April 14-1686.

III

William[3] Russell, b. Lexington, Mass. June 12-1667, d. Concord. (now Carlisle), Jan. 27-1717/18 in 51st. year; m. Concord, April 24-1688, Hannah Adams, b. July 25-1670, dau. of James & Priscilla (Ramsden) Adams.

Children: 1. Rebecca, b. March 15-1692/3, d. Jan. 6-1713/14.
2. William, b. June 8-1688, m. Philadelphia Shephard.
3. Hanah, b. May 28-1690, m. Jonathan Wheeler, Aug 29-1710.
4. James, b. Dec. 26-1695, m. Susanna Farrar, Aug 16-1722
5. Dorcas, b. June 3-1698
6. Tabitha, b. Oct. 21-1700
7. John b. June 5-1703
8. Priscilla, b. Jan. 31-1705/6
9. Martha, b. July 24-1708
10. Elizabeth, b. May 17-1711
11. Ebenezer, b. July 12-1714, m. Abigail Baker, Dec. 30-1737.

IV

James[4] Russell, b. Concord, Dec. 26-1695, d. Concord. May 5-1773 æ. 77-3-29; m. (1st) Aug. 16-1722, Susanna Farrar, b. Nov. 11-1701, d. Aug 1-1738 in her 37th year; dau. of Jacob & Susanna (Rediat) Farrar who were m. in 1692. James[4] and Susanna are buried in the Hill Burying Ground in Concord.

James[4] m. (2nd) Hannah -------- who d. Carlisle, widow, April 3-1787

(continued)

Children of James[4] and Susanna (Farrar) Russell :-

1. James[5], b. May 10-1723, m. Lydia Potter, Dec. 15-1764.
2. Jacob, b. Oct. 25-1724, d. Oct. 1-1748.
3. Susannah, b. Nov. 12-1726, m. Jeremiah Andrews, Dec. 3-1761
4. Hannah, b. July 2-1730, m. (Ephraim Melvin, May 8-1759 ?)
5. William, b. Dec. 5-1734
6. Rebekah, b. Feb. 10-1736/7, m. Peter Heald, May 31-1763, of Sipton, now Sharon and Temple, N.H. She was the second wife of Dea. Peter Heald who was born in Townsend, Mass, and married (1st) Sarah ---- and removed to Sipton (Temple) N.H. in 1758. He d. Sept. 25-1811. Their children were: Peter, the first male child born in Temple, N.H., Mary, Rebecca, Simon, Sarah, Eunice, Susanna and James.

V

James[5] Russell, b. Concord, May 10-1723, d. Carlisle, Aug 17-1801 ae 78. m. Dec. 15-1764, Lydia Potter, b. Jan. 7-1733, d. Carlisle, Nov. 17-1826 aged 93 yrs 5 m. 10 days. Buried in Central Burying Ground, Carlisle. Lydia was dau. of Samuel and Elizabeth Potter of Concord.

Children, all born in Concord, now Carlisle:

1. Lydia, b. Nov. 2-1765, m. Carlisle Nov. 6-1788, James Giles, Jr. of Townsend, Mass. (1767-1839)
2. Mary, b. July 10-1767, d. Jan 15-1799, unmarried.
3. Elizabeth, b. June 25-1769, d. Nov. 14-1839, m. Lt. Daniel Wheat. Aug 12-1790. Carlisle.
4. Hannah, b. July 20-1771, d. Jan. 17-1868,
   m. (1st) 1792, Jesse Green (1762-1802)
   (2nd) 1823, Capt. Stephen Blood
5. Susannah, b. Feb. 27-1773, d. Nov. 20-1831,
   m. Jan 6-1795, Reuben Duren (1769-1819)
6. James[6], b. May 9-1775, d. June 5-1858, in Lowell, Mass.
   m. Aug. 27-1797, Mary Butler
7. Jacob[6], b. Dec. 25-1776, d. May 5-1851,
   m. Oct. 5-1800, Susanna Giles (1778-1856) of Townsend.

VI

James[6] Russell, b. May 9-1775, d. Lowell, Mass. June 5-1858, m. Aug 27-1797, Mary Butler, b. 1779, d. 1863, dau. of Joseph and Mary (Kidder) Butler.

Children, all born in the old Russell house, Carlisle:

1. William Lambert, b. Oct. 27-1799, d. Barre, Mass. May 6-1899, a centenarian. He went to the Concord schools, Groton Academy and Harvard College where he graduated in 1826.

He m. June 2-1836, Mary Ann Warren, b- 1816, dau. of Calvin and Caroline (Carter) Warren of Hubbardston, Mass-
He became a physician in Barre, Mass. He wrote the description of the old Russell house in Carlisle-

2- Emerson, b- Sept- 13- 1802

3. Mary Ann, b- Oct. 3- 1804-

4. James Sullivan, b- March 23- 1807, d. Jan 14- 1903- He m- Oct 4 1842, Elizabeth Chapin Bartlett (1813-1866) dau. of Watt & Martha G- (Chapin) Bartlett-
He studied at Brown University, from which he received the honorary degree of A.M- He taught schools in various towns in the State, finally becoming teacher of mathematics in Lowell (Mass.) High School; continued there for forty-three years, retiring in 1881-
He was the person who gave us the only description, in words, that we have, of the Rev- Paul Litchfield, first minister of Carlisle-
Children of James Sullivan & Elizabeth (Bartlett) Russell:-
(1) James B- b- June 5- 1850, d. Lowell, Mass June 8- 1936 aged 86 years, 3 days- unmarried-
(2) Mary Bartlett, b- April 5- 1846, d- Lowell, May 25- 1937 in her 92nd- year-
(3) ----- (Mrs Hiram J- Potter)
ch: Miss Leslie Potter of West Newton, Mass-
Stanley B. Potter of Suncook, N.H-

5. (Hon) George Washington, b- Aug-9- 1809.
m-(1st) Jan. 1- 1835, Susan Faulkner (1811-1847) dau. of Nathaniel Faulkner-
m.(2nd) May 16- 1849, Catherine Emily Smith (1828-1861) dau. of Solomon and Catherine Smith-
m. (3rd) June 20- 1865, Lydia (Baker) Waite (1819-)

VI

Children of Jacob[6] Russell, b- Dec. 25- 1776, d- May 5- 1851, and Susanna Giles, b- 1778, d- 1856, m- Oct- 5- 1800- Jacob[6] was son of James[5] and Lydia (Potter) Russell-

1. Susan, b- Dec. 24- 1802-
2- Milo, b- Jan. 20- 1805
3. Francis, b- Feb- 1- 1807
4. Jacob- b- Jan. 20- 1810
5. Lydia, b- March 8- 1812-

Russell

In the Bedford. Mass. vital records it gives the following facts:

Royal Russell, widower, b. Carlisle ..... died, Oct. 7-1849, aged 54., son of-----

Roxy B. Russell, b. Townsend, wife of Royal, d. May 30-1849 ae. 50.

children: recorded in Bedford vital records:

1. James S. b. Bedford, Aug. 22-1828.
2. Roxy M. b. " May 15-1830
3. George H. b. Billerica, Jan. 16-1832
4. Harriet, b. Bedford, Oct. 21-1834
5. Hiram F. b. Lexington, Dec. 22-1836
6. Charles, b. " April 2-1839
7. Caroline, b. Burlington, April 8-1844

Children of Dr. William L. Russell of Barre, Mass. He m 1836, Marry A. Warren of Hubbardston. Mass.

3 ch: a son who died when 8 years old.

Caroline, m. William Howland of Lynn, and lived in Cambridge. Mass.

Marian, m. J. C. Bartholomew, a native of Hardwick and lived in Barre. Mass.

This Indenture witnessetth John Russell son of William Ruffel of Concord in the County of Midlesex in the province of the Massathusets Bay in Newengland. hath put himselfe, and by these presents doth vollentarily of his own free wil and acord and with the Consente of his father and mother William Ruffell and Philadelphiah Ruffel doth put and binde him selfe an apprentice unto James Hildreth of the towne of Westford in the County and province afore sd shoe maker to learne his arte. and with him after the maner of an apprentice to serve and Remain from the twelfte day of May in the year of our lord God 1730 untill the full end and and time of seven years next ensuing the date here of to be Compleat and ended. during all which time the sd apprentice his sd master faithfully shall serve, his his secrets, keep his lawfull Commands gladly every where obey; he shall do no dammage to his sd master nor see it to be done of others; without leting or giving notis to his sd master he shall not waste his masters goods nor lende them unlawfully to any. he shal not Commit fornication nor Contract matrymony with in the sd term. at Cards Dice or any other unlawfull games he shall not play where by his sd master may have damage with his own goods nor with the goods of others; he shall not absense himselfe by day or by night from his sd masters service with out his leave; nor haunt ale house. taverns or play houses but in all things to behave himselfe as a faithfull aprentice ought to do to wards his sd master. & all this during the sd terme. and the sd James Hildreth the sd master doth here by Corenant and promise to teach the sd apprentice or cause to be taught and instructed in the arte and trade of a shoe maker or to pay the sd apprentice twenty pounds in Current mony of Newengland at the end of the sd terme and also to teach the sd apprentice to Read and to write. and also to find provide and allowe unto the sd apprentice during the sd time sufficient of meate drink apparel washing and lodging and all other neceffaries both in sickneff and helth during the sd terme; and at the Expiration of the sd. terme which will be May the 12 in the year of our Lord God 1737 to give and allowe unto the sd apprentice two good suits of apparrel Change for all parts of his body both of linnon and wollen sutable for such an apprentice. in testimony where of the parties above named to these presents have here unto enterChangably set to therre hand and seall this 13 day of May & in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred & thirty

and in the third year of the Raign of our soveraig Lord Gorge the second &c
in the presents of

Abraham Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler

James Hildreth (red seal wax)

Copied from old writing in the possession
of Mrs George R. Owen, Carlisle, Mass - 1931.

William Russell } both of Concord, were married June 28 - 1715
Ffiladelfia Shepard }
children: John, b. May 29 - 1716
Jason, b. Jan 6 - 1718. m. Mary Robbens of Chelmsford
Nov 6 - 1740.

Russell deed. 1731-32.

William Russell of Concord, husbandman, conveyed to Jonathan Wheeler of Concord, husbandman, for £24 "a certain tract of upland & swamp containing by estimation twelve (?) acres be the same more or less situate lying & being within the bounds & limmits of sd Concord & in the northerly part thereof, bounded as followeth (viz) Northerly Partly by the Land of Widow Sarah Colborn & partly by land formerly Robert Bloods: westerly by my own Land Southerly by the Land of said Jonathan Wheeler as the wall now standeth Easterly it boundeth by the highway Leaduig to Chelmsford" ------ &c- being a recital of marks such as oak trees, stakes, stones &c-

Signed Feb. 1- 1731 "alias thirty-two" by

William Russell (his mark)
Philadelphia Russell (her ")

In the presence of
John Flint
Ephraim Browne.
(John Flint was Justice of the Peace)
Recorded, Cambridge, March 25-1755
Lib- 53, Pag. 108-9.

This deed is chiefly of interest because of its age, being 200 years old, and because of the odd name of Mrs. Russell. These two were the parents of John Russell whose apprenticeship Contract is also given. This old deed is in the possession of Mrs. George R. Duren.

HEALD-SCHIRMER HOUSE
West Street

Historical Sketch

Deacon Joseph (7) Heald Family

15

Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. Schirmer

West Street.

Built by Deacon Joseph Heald. abt 1804

photographed, Feb. 1941, by Mrs. B. P. Wilkins.

Heald-Aldridge House,

West Street

built about 1804 by Deacon Joseph Heald

now the residence of Mr. Curtice Aldridge

photographed 1934.
By Mrs B. P. Wilkins.

14

Heald-Aldridge house

photographed 1931.

11

Heald-Scrimmer House
formerly
Heald-Aldridge House
West Street.
also called the
"Deacon Joseph Heald Place"
and the
"Frank Lorenig Place."
Probably built about 1804.

On West Street (a continuation of Westford Street in Concord, and often confused with Westford St. Carlisle) not far from the original location of the former Red Tavern, is the house built by Deacon Joseph Heald about 1804.

The two Heald brothers, Joseph and William lived in these two neighboring houses, and at one time when John William Heald lived in the Tavern house, the large barn on the tavern property was used together, each owning half. I do not know when the barn on the Joseph Heald place was built, but probably after the farm passed out of the Heald name.

Joseph[6] Heald, born probably in the Tavern house, Sept. 6-1780, died Feb. 29-1872 at the age of ninety-one years, son of John[5] and Mary (White) Heald. He married, first, Mary[5] Proctor of Westford, May 17-1804, in Carlisle. She was born (per death record) April 23-1775, and died, according to her grave-stone, June 23-1838 aged 63 yrs 2 months. They had two children: (1) Mary, b. May 23-1805 who married Addison Hutchinson and died in Manchester, N. H., leaving three children; and (2) Eliza Ann, born May 11-1810 who m. Isaac Flander.

Mr. Joseph Heald remained a widower only one year. On June 20-1839 he married Mrs. Hannah (Wilkins) Nutting of Carlisle. She was b. Aug. 2-1792 according to family records (Dec 2-1791 by town records) and d. Nov. 12-1852 aged 63, daughter of James and Hannah (Brown) Wilkins, and widow of Cyrus Nutting, all of Carlisle. There were no children by this union.

Joseph Heald was one of the church members of the Parish Church in 1827 at the time of the death of their beloved minister, Parson Litchfield, and at the organization of the Union Calvanistic Society, now the Congregational Church, went with that company of church members who still retained orthodox religious views. He was made the third deacon of the new church and served in that capacity many years.

A photograph of Deacon Joseph Heald can be found in the album of old residents, in Gleason Library Historical Room. He and his first

wife, Mary (Proctor) Heald are buried in the North Acton cemetery.

The house became the property of Artemas Parker after the decease of Deacon Heald, although he did not live here; next by Jackson Wyman, then Franklin Lorering and his sister Anna who were here many years, afterward by John Bradley and his family for a short time, Albert E. Fenety and at present by Mr. & Mrs. Curtice McClay Aldridge who acquired the property in September, 1933, coming here from Rome, N.Y.

The house, facing south, presents to the road, the east end of the main building and a long ell with an attached barn. Outbuildings and another larger barn stand across the road.

It has always been a farm house, built on the same general plan as others in this vicinity, around a central chimney. It is not especially rich in paneling, although it has some in the various rooms. At one time a glassed and screened porch was added to the front of the house which may have contributed to the comfort of the inmates, but certainly did not enhance the appearance of the building. This has been removed by the present owner, Mr. Aldridge, with very favorable results. The interior is gradually being restored and the house will take its place as an attractive suburban dwelling. The property consists of twenty-nine acres of land and the residence.

Charles G. Schirmer owner in 1940.

Franklin Lorering
Anna Lorering
Martin Lorering
} children of Jonas and Rebecca H. (Lorejoy) Lorering of Harvard, Mass., whose homestead farm is now a part of Camp Devens.

Deacon Joseph Heald[7]
(Capt. John[6], Lieut. John[5], Lt. Dea. John[4], Lt. John[3], Ser. John[2], John[1])

Deacon Joseph Heald[7], son of Captain John[6] and Mary (White) Heald, b. Sept 6-1780
d. Feb 29-1872 aged 91. buried No. Acton, Mass.
married (1st) March 16-1804 (Proctor Genealogy, p. 47)
May 17-1804 (Carlisle Vital Records)
Mary[5] Proctor (John[4], John[3], John[2], Robert[1])
of Westford, Mass.
b. (no date given in Proctor Genealogy)
d. June 9-1838 (Proctor Genealogy)
June 23-1838 (gravestone) aged 63 yrs, 2 months - buried No. Acton.
children:-
1. Mary, b. May 23-1805
m. Addison Hutchinson
d. Manchester, N.H.
They had 3 children:-
Addison
Eliza
Cornelia
2. Eliza Ann, b. May 11-1810
d.
m. Isaac Flander
married (2nd) June 20-1839
Hannah (Wilkins) Nutting, b. Dec 2-1791 (town record)
Aug 2-1792 (private ")
died Nov 12-1852, aged 63, daughter of James & Hannah (Brown) Wilkins of Carlisle, and widow of Cyrus Nutting.

The photograph of Deacon Joseph Heald is in the album of old residents, in Gleason Library Historical Room, Carlisle. His home was on West Street.